Appl. No. 10/016,845 Reply to Office Action of April 16, 2009

REMARKS

This Response is in reply to the Office Action dated April 16, 2009. Claims 14 and 36 have been amended. Claim 42 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

A Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith. Please charge deposit account number 02-1818 for the cost of the Petition and for any fees associated with this Response.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 1-4, 7-11, 14-18, 21-25, 28-32, and 35 are allowable and that dependent claim 42 would be allowable if rewritten to include the features of the independent claim.

The Office Action rejected Claims 36-39 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,999,127 ("Dezelan") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,453,168 ("Mccrady). Applicants submits that claims 36 has been amended to include the features of claim 42 (which the Office Action of April 16, 2009 indicated was allowable). For at least this reason, Applicants submit that independent claim 36 and its dependent claims are allowable over Dezelan in view of Mccrady and are in condition for allowance.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 10, 2009